

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 12, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

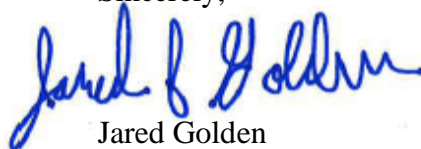
We write to strongly urge you to take swift action to mitigate the anticipated high heating costs for New England households as the winter season approaches. Due to energy supply shortages, a colder winter, and the continued economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, our constituents are likely to spend more on energy in the coming months than in previous winters. That is why we encourage you to use the authorities provided to you by Congress to lessen the financial burden on New England families.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) Winter Fuels Outlook, "retail prices for energy are at or near multi year highs in the United States." Based on the analysis done by the EIA, households that heat primarily with heating oil could see as much as a 59 percent increase in their residential energy bills, homes that use natural gas could have their energy bills increase by as much as 50 percent, and propane users could see a 94 percent increase in energy costs this winter. As representatives for the New England region, where natural gas, propane, and heating oil are the primary sources of energy consumption, these projected cost increases could not only have a detrimental impact on our constituents financially, but also poses a serious health risk if they cannot afford to keep their homes at safe temperatures during the winter months.

To ensure that no family must choose between heating their homes and making ends meet, we implore you to consider releasing inventory from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve consistent with statute, as well as limiting natural gas exports, to increase energy supply in the region. At a time when nearly 30 percent of households are forgoing other expenses to pay their energy bills, these actions could meaningfully bring energy prices down for New England households and allow them to keep the lights on and the thermostat up during the winter months.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and, along with our Senate colleagues, stand ready to work with you to ensure that millions of New England households can keep the lights on and the thermostat up during the winter months.

Sincerely,



Jared Golden
Member of Congress



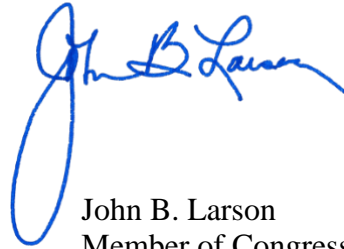
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



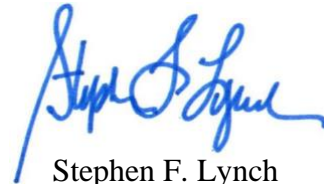
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress